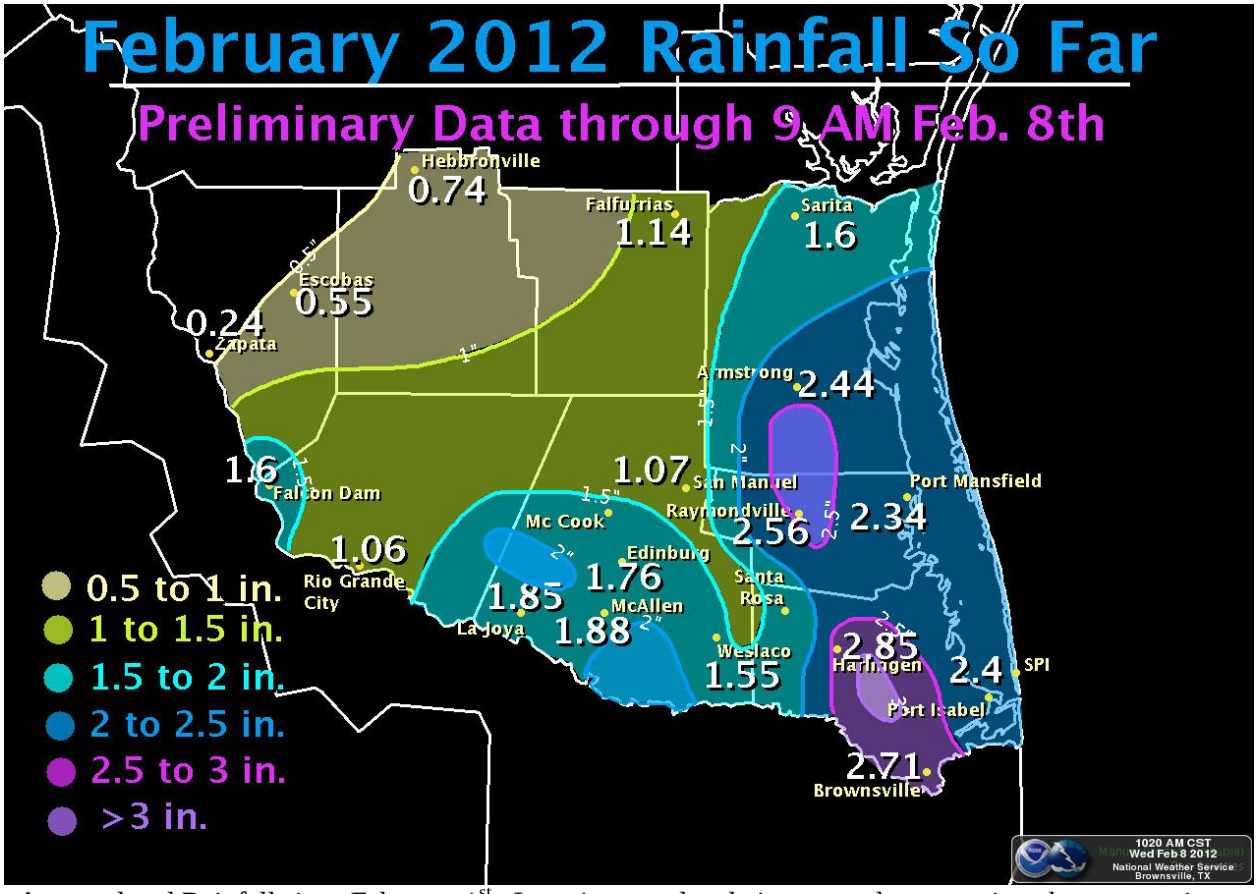

Accumulated Rainfall since February 1st. Locations are local airports and cooperative observer stations.

Welcome Rain: Round Two Begins

Another 1 to 2 inches soaks the Lower and Mid Valley by February 8th

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Drought levels likely to improve from "Exceptional" to "Severe" in Lower Valley

The Relief continues…

As forecast, a series of upper level disturbances returned high levels of atmospheric moisture to the Lower and Mid Rio Grande Valley beginning Tuesday evening February 7th and continuing through most of Wednesday, February 8th. Significant rain on the order of 1 to 2 inches fell in areas which had received generally ½ to 2 inches on February 4th and 5th, bringing event totals over 2 ½ inches across much of Cameron and Willacy County, with more than 3 inches in and near Harlingen. Steady rains across the mid Valley brought southern Hidalgo close to or above 2 inches. Overall, the most populated and agriculturally sensitive region along Federal Highway 83 from Hidalgo through Cameron County, and along Highway 77 throughout the Lower Texas coast, received more than 2 inches – and counting.

Quick Stats: Just how wet has it been, compared with long term averages? Based on long term climate records:

- Brownsville had more than doubled its long term ***monthly*** average (1.22" since 1878) with 2.71" – and counting.
- Harlingen/Cooperative had also doubled its long term ***monthly*** average (1.43" since 1911) with 2.85" – and counting.
- McAllen/Miller had also nearly doubled its long term ***monthly*** average (1.05" since 1961) with 1.88" – and counting.

And February is ***only eight days old***!

Total *preliminary event* amounts since February 4th (a shade less than *monthly* totals shown on the map) follows.

OBSERVATION TYPE: - COCORAHS

CITY/TOWN	FEB 8TH RAIN	TOTAL (4TH/8TH)	COUNTY
PALM VALLEY 2.2 SSW	1.45	3.95	CAMERON
SAN BENITO 5SSE	1.25	3.43	CAMERON
RIO HONDO 9.4 NE	0.84	3.15	CAMERON
BROWNSVILLE 3.5 N	1.05	3.09	CAMERON
RANCHO VIEJO 0.7E	0.78	2.91	CAMERON
BROWNSVILLE 1.9ESE	N/A	1.95	CAMERON
BROWNSVILLE 4.4NE	0.72	2.66	CAMERON
BROWNSVILLE 5NW	0.83	2.65	CAMERON
LOS FRESNOS 0.3NE	0.90	2.67	CAMERON
HARLINGEN 2.6ESE	N/A	3.55	CAMERON
LOS FRESNOS 0.8SSE	0.88	2.60	CAMERON
LA JOYA 11.1N	0.96	2.58	HIDALGO
BROWNSVILLE 6.4SE	0.35	1.99	CAMERON
BROWNSVILLE 0.1SSE	0.74	2.32	CAMERON
BROWNSVILLE 2.2W	0.85	2.41	CAMERON
BROWNSVILLE 4.1E	0.71	2.15	CAMERON
FALFURRIAS 0.5W	0.24	1.60	BROOKS
FALFURRIAS 8.9SSW	N/A	1.29	BROOKS
HARLINGEN 4.3 WSW	1.77	2.65	CAMERON
HARLINGEN 4.7WSW	0.88	2.56	CAMERON
EDINBURG 1.1WSW	0.91	1.74	HIDALGO
PHARR 5.1N	1.05	1.90	HIDALGO
MISSION 1.9 ENE	0.92	1.76	HIDALGO
MCALLEN 2.4NE	0.80	1.60	HIDALGO
ALAMO 1.5NNE	1.44	2.19	HIDALGO
MISSION 3.8SW	0.86	1.62	HIDALGO
RAYMONDVILLE 5.8E	0.70	2.95	WILLACY
BROWNSVILLE 1.3WNW	0.87	2.65	CAMERON

OBSERVATION TYPE: - ASOS/AWOS

AIRPORTS	RAIN	TOTAL (4TH/8TH)	COUNTY
BROWNSVILLE/SPI (NWS)	0.95	2.71	CAMERON
BAYVIEW/PORT ISABEL	0.66	2.40	CAMERON
HARLINGEN (VALLEY INTL)	1.24	2.24	CAMERON
FALFURRIAS/BROOKS CTY	0.10	1.09	BROOKS
WESLACO/MID VALLEY	1.22	1.98	HIDALGO
EDINBURG INTL	0.54	1.18	HIDALGO
MCALLEN MILLER INTL	1.21	1.80	HIDALGO
HEBBRONVILLE/JIM HOGG	0.00	0.53	JIM HOGG
ZAPATA	0.03	0.15	ZAPATA

OBSERVATION TYPE: - COOP

CITY/TOWN	RAIN	TOTAL (5TH/8TH)	COUNTY
ARMSTRONG	0.40	2.42	KENEDY

RAYMONDVILLE	0.59	2.53	WILLACY
PORT MANSFIELD	0.70	2.34	WILLACY
SOUTH PADRE ISLAND	0.54	2.04	CAMERON
SARITA	0.16	1.60	KENEDY
FALFURRIAS	0.18	1.57	BROOKS
HARLINGEN	1.49	2.79	CAMERON
LA JOYA	0.85	1.80	HIDALGO
SANTA ROSA	0.71	1.49	HIDALGO
MCALLEN	1.00	1.68	HIDALGO
HEBBRONVILLE	0.03	0.68	JIM HOGG
ESCOBAS	N/A	0.55	ZAPATA
RIO GRANDE CITY	0.60	1.02	STARR
MERCEDES	1.06	1.40	HIDALGO

OBSERVATION TYPE: - RAWS

CITY/TOWN	RAIN	TOTAL (5TH/8TH)	COUNTY
SANTA ANA	1.68*	2.68	HIDALGO
FALCON LAKE	0.71	1.51	STARR
LINN-SAN MANUEL	0.55	1.30	HIDALGO
LAGUNA ATASCOSA	1.49	2.14	CAMERON
HEBBRONVILLE	0.01	0.41	JIM HOGG

OBSERVATION TYPE - PUBLIC REPORTS

CITY/TOWN	RAIN	TOTAL (5TH/8TH)	COUNTY
LOS FRESNOS 4W	1.35	3.21	CAMERON
SHARYLAND	1.50	2.94	HIDALGO

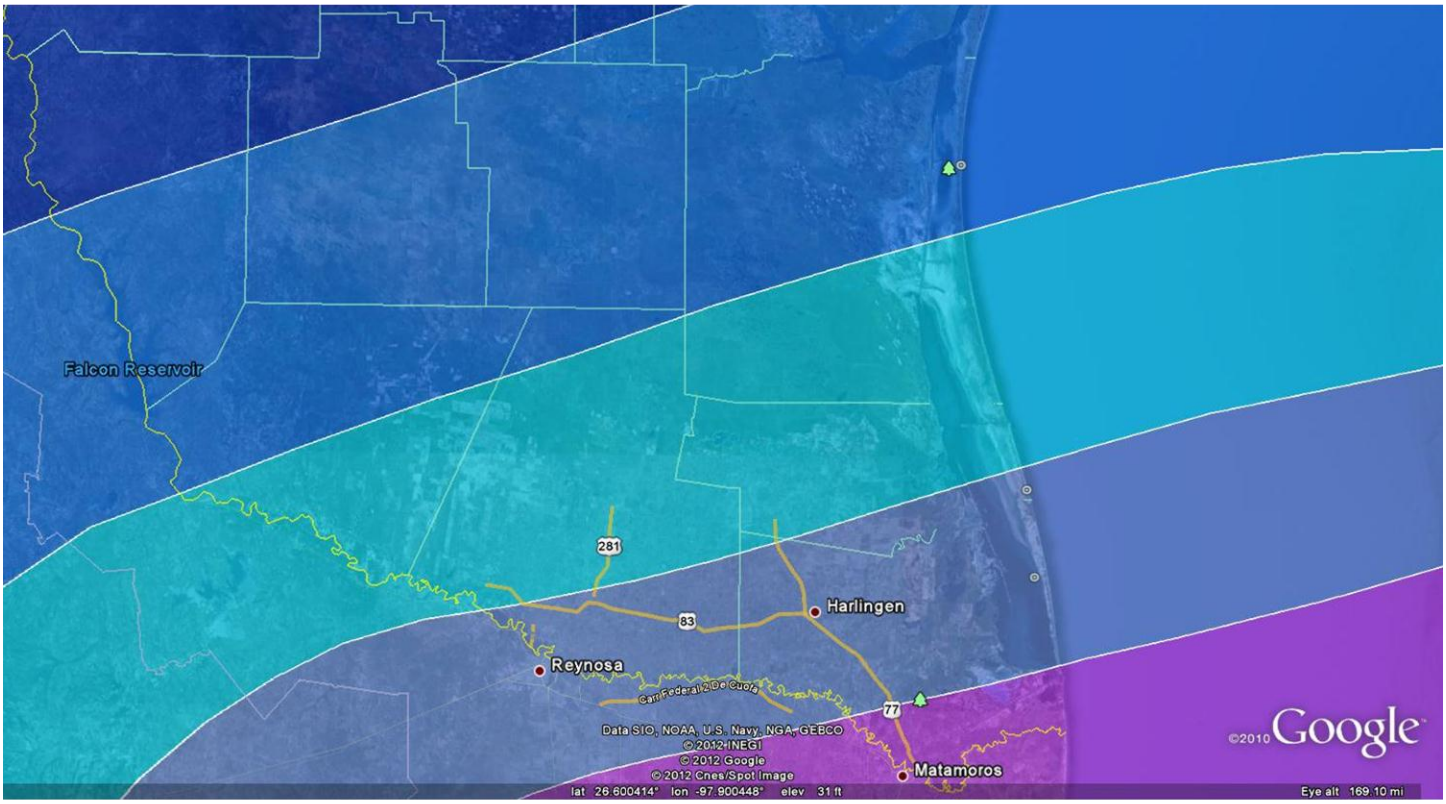
*RAINFALL MAY BE OVERESTIMATED.

OBSERVATION TYPE LEGEND:
ASOS - AUTOMATED SURFACE OBSERVING SYSTEM (NWS/DOD)
AWOS - AUTOMATED WEATHER OBSERVING SYSTEM (FAA/OTHERS)
COOP - COOPERATIVE OBSERVER (NWS)
RAWS - REMOTE AUTOMATED WEATHER SYSTEM
COCORAHS - COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE RAIN HAIL AND SNOW NETWORK

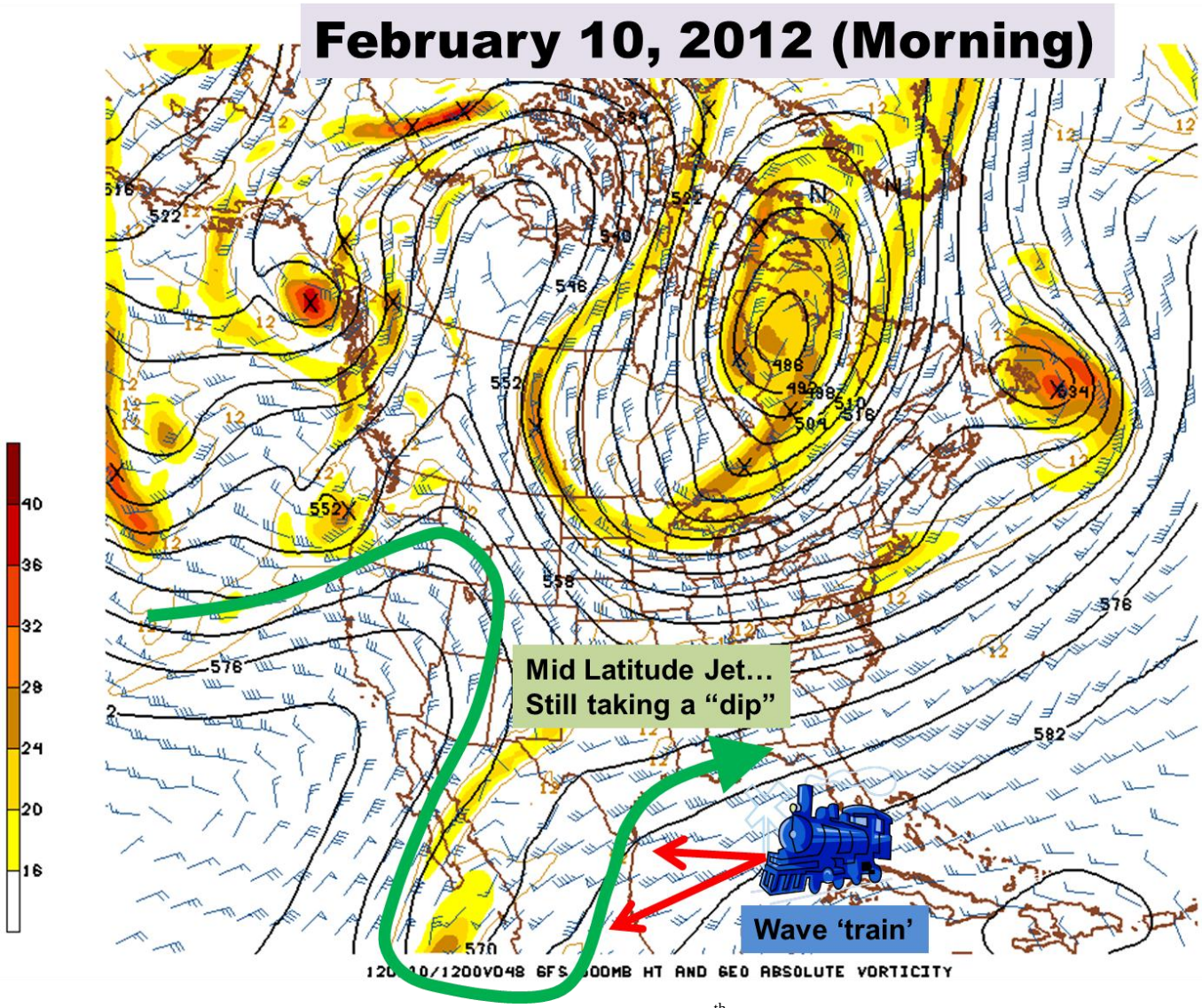
What's Next?

More rain, that's what! The "wave train" (last image, below) well above the surface, emanating from an elongated upper level low across northwest Mexico, will bring at least three more mini-rounds Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Additional rain could fall Sunday before – we believe – everything clears out and sunshine returns. That sunshine will coincide with the start of out typical spring blooming season – and may result in a very pretty green-up period from late February into early March before drier conditions gradually take over as the sun gains a higher angle with the arrival of the equinox (March 20th).

Rainfall Forecast February 8-12, 2011



An additional 1 to 1 ½ inches is predicted – at least – until the event ends later this weekend. More rain could fall, depending on if a coastal trough develops. Such a trough would provide additional lift of tropically-sourced air over the somewhat cooler surface air, and could add another inch or so to these forecast totals. Confidence has increased that by the end of the event, 3 to 5 inches of rain will have fallen across the Lower and Mid Valley, highest near the coast, with potential for 6 inches or more if heavier rain cells develop.



Pattern at around 18,00 feet above the surface Friday morning, February 10th, showing continuing series of atmospheric waves tapping tropical moisture. The pattern is expected to continue into Saturday or even early Sunday before departing and flattening out, returning a drier flow from the west above the earth's surface.